

sterilisation process, characterized in that the sterilisation apparatus comprises a double-walled boiler] having an inner wall and an outer wall, whereby fluid [such as demineralised water being] is present between the inner and the outer wall [by which] such that a stable temperature of the [boiler] inner wall can be achieved as well as steam generated therefrom.

2. ☐ (Amended) [A]The apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that [at least] regulators and heating elements in said double boiler walls can provide for a stable fluid temperature.

3. ☐ (Amended) [A]The apparatus according to claim 1 [or 2], characterized in that means are present for feeding steam for the sterilisation process pulsatingly into said boiler, [as well as] and means [which] can also provide a pulsating vacuum in said boiler such that air in the instruments or the like objects which are to be sterilised can be removed.

4. ☐ (Amended) [A]The apparatus according to [any of preceding] claim[s] 1[-3], characterized in that means are present for setting[, respectively]and measuring pressure, temperature, time and output for controlling all phases occurring within said boiler before, during and after the sterilisation process.

5. ☐ (Amended) [A]The apparatus according to claim 4, characterized in that [the]said means are controlled by a process computer which displays various data read-outs digitally and/or alphanumerically and/or graphically[, e.g. to an internal or external printing apparatus (printer)].

6. ☐ (Amended) [A]The apparatus according to [any of the preceding] claim[s] 1, characterized in that a [(time)] switch clock for use of "stand-by" purposes, such as for heating-up of and maintaining the temperature of said boiler, is available.

7. ☐ (Amended) [A]The apparatus according to [any or several of the preceding] claim[s] 1, characterized in that [the]a sterilisation space of the boiler is provided with lateral supports for a number of standard plateaus on which instruments, whether wrapped or not, and/or bandage substances may be placed.

8. ☐ (Amended) [A]The apparatus according to [any or several of the preceding] claim[s] 5, characterized in that the front or feed side of the boiler can be sealed pressure-tight by means of a heat-isolating hinged door provided with an incorporated nut whereby the casing to that end is provided with a swivelable hermetically sealing screw.

13 Sub B3 10. (Amended) [A] The apparatus according to [any or several of the preceding] claim[s] 1, characterized in said double-walled boiler consists of a cylindrical sterilisation boiler [is] placed symmetrically though non-concentrically within [the] a cylindrical outer boiler, such that in the use-position the volume of the fluid or water space [down in] on the bottom of the double-walled boiler is ¹¹²considerably larger than [up in] at the top of the boiler.

11. (Amended) [A] The apparatus according to [any or several of preceding] claim[s] 1 [-9], characterized in that said double-walled boiler consists of a cylindrical sterilisation boiler [is] placed concentrically within a cylindrical outer boiler.

12. (Amended) [A] The apparatus according to [any of preceding] claim[s] 1-9] 5, characterized in that [the] said process computer and [a] said sterilisation apparatus [according to claim 10 or 11] are provided in a casing in which also the fluid reservoir with corresponding pump, control appendages, a dry-air connection and a connection to a vacuum line with valves [being] are present.

Please add the following claims:

A 13. The apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that the front or feed side of the boiler can be sealed pressure-tight by means of a heat-isolating hinged door provided with an incorporated nut whereby the casing to that end is provided with a swivelable hermetically sealing screw.

Sub B4 14. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said fluid is demineralized water. 112 1st not present

15. The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said data read-outs are displayed to an internal or external printing apparatus. method found

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to include a reference to the International Application No. of the present application, PCT/NL97/00404. Additional amendments correct minor informalities in the specification.

The claims have been amended and Claims 13-15 added to more precisely claim the invention according to conventional practice before the United States Patent and Trademark Office.